

Descriptor Term:

**DRAFT**

Descriptor Code:

**PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**IMH-GUIDELINES**

**Requirements for Participation in Extracurricular Activities  
Rogers Public Schools**

**Introduction**

Extracurricular activities play an important part in the lives of many students. The positive lessons learned in these activities are beneficial to students, not only during their school years, but also long after they leave school. Extracurricular activities provide students with special opportunities to develop skills and attitudes and to be recognized for their accomplishments. Participants in such activities are expected to be role models for other young people. Because these are elective opportunities, and because those who choose to participate in these activities are clearly representatives of the school district, the Rogers School District has adopted the following requirements for participation in athletics, music activities, speech/drama activities, and other activities in which students give public performances or compete against students from other schools. It is the district's expectation that parents will fully understand the need for such requirements and will assist school personnel in seeing that students meet these requirements. The requirements which follow are for **all** extracurricular activities; specific extracurricular programs may impose additional requirements.

**Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities**  
**(all interscholastic activities under the jurisdiction of the Arkansas Activities Association)**

**Student-Athlete Code of Conduct**

Participation in student activities is a privilege and not a right. Creditable student conduct shall be one of the criteria for participation in school activities. Creditable conduct includes such things as regular and punctual attendance and a quality of conduct which promotes the best interests of school. It also includes the student-athletes conduct outside of the school walls and in the community. Conduct should not be detrimental to the well being of the team, school, or community. Therefore, students shall exhibit standards of behavior which will bring credit to the student, the activities, the school and the community. Students who participate in the activities, athletics, or performing arts programs should remember the rewards, recognition, and notoriety that comes with involvement also carries a high degree of school, civic, and individual discipline and responsibility.

The Board recognizes that the student behavior shall be in compliance with School Board policy, Student/Parent Handbook Discipline Code and with public laws. Repeated referrals of a student to the office of assistant principal or to the principal, (or any other person having general responsibility for discipline in the school) for misbehavior may be sufficient reason to declare a student ineligible. A single serious breach of good conduct, either in or out of school may also be sufficient cause for declaring a student ineligible to participate in a school activity. Behavior not in compliance may result in suspension or expulsion from all extracurricular activities.

While it is not possible to cite every example of behavior that violates policies, regulations, or public laws, there are certain behaviors that are more frequently a problem for school systems than others and will be addressed herein.

**Code of Conduct Violations**

Students committing code of conduct violations will be handled on a case by case basis. Repeated offenses may result in additional consequences from the coach and building administration. Ranges of

consequences may range from a minimum of a warning to a maximum of dismissal from the team and/or activities program.

Students who are suspended or expelled from school cannot participate in extracurricular activities during the time of their suspension/expulsion and are not allowed to attend school activities during this time. Students who remain in school, but whose behavior is inappropriate, may be removed from extracurricular participation (including practices/rehearsals during non-school hours) at the discretion of the coach/sponsor of the activity or a building administrator.

### **Alcohol & Drug Violations**

Students in the Rogers School District and who are in its activities program who possess, use, sell, distribute, or are under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, look-alike drugs, any prescription drug without proper prescription, or drug devices, or any items purporting to be alcohol or drugs shall be subject to the following consequences:

- 1.1. First Offense - A minimum twenty-eight (28) calendar day suspension from participation in the activities program will be assessed, notification and conference with parent/guardian, referral to counselor. If student completes an approved drug/alcohol assessment, activity suspension may be reduced to 14 calendar days. A clean drug test must also be provided by the student before engaging in any games, practices, or tryouts.
- 1.2. Second Offense - Dismissal from the remainder of the season the student is currently participating or 60 calendar days, whichever is longest, notification and conference with parent/guardian, referral to counselor. If student completes an approved drug/alcohol assessment, activity suspension may be reduced to 45 calendar days. A clean drug test must also be provided by the student before engaging in any games, practices, or tryouts.
- 1.3. Third Offense - Removal from participating activities program for the remainder of the student's high school career.

### **Tobacco Violations**

Students in the Rogers School District and who are in its activities program who possess, use, sell, distribute, or are under the influence of tobacco, tobacco products, or items purported to be tobacco shall be subject to the following consequences:

- 1.1. First Offense - A minimum fourteen (14) calendar day suspension from participation in the activities program will be assessed, notification of parent/guardian, and a referral to a counselor for a tobacco education program.
- 1.2. Second Offense - A minimum twenty eight (28) calendar day suspension from participation in the activities program, notification of parent/guardian, and a referral to a counselor for a tobacco education program.
- 1.3. Third Offense - Removal from the activities program for remainder of school year.

The district's extracurricular activities program will be monitored by the superintendent, athletic director, and principals, or their designees. The School also believes that consistent administration of this policy is important from school to school, and from activity to activity, and that appropriate due process procedures must be followed before any student is suspended from participation.

Each individual coach or sponsor, after consulting with the principal or his/her designee, has the authority to decide whether or not a student will be allowed to practice with a team or school sponsored group while that student's eligibility is suspended.

## Academic Requirements

Participants must meet all guidelines established by the Arkansas Activities Association, the Arkansas Department of Education, and the school district. As a minimum, students must maintain a C average (2.00 GPA) (or be enrolled in an approved Supplemental Instruction Program) and pass 4 classes during the previous semester

## Disciplinary Requirements

~~Participants are expected to be good school citizens. Students who are suspended or expelled from school cannot participate in extracurricular activities during the time of their suspension/expulsion and are not allowed to attend school activities during this time. Students who remain in school, but whose behavior is inappropriate, may be removed from extracurricular participation (including practices/rehearsals during non-school hours) at the discretion of the coach/sponsor of the activity or a building administrator.~~

Special rules apply regarding student possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, and other illegal drugs:

- ~~● Students who possess or use alcohol or illegal drugs will be suspended from all extracurricular participation for a period of **30 school days**.~~
- ~~● Students who possess or use tobacco (in any form) will be suspended from all extracurricular participation for a period of at least **20 school days**.~~

~~**These penalties will apply even if the student engages in these prohibited activities during non-school time,** provided school officials have sufficient proof that the behavior occurred.~~

## Illness/Injury

Participants and parents/guardians of those participating in extracurricular activities are required to report in writing to the appropriate coach/sponsor any illness or injury which might limit the student's ability to practice or participate in the activity. Participants are specifically required to report when they are taking **any** physician-prescribed or over-the-counter medication. This will allow the coach/sponsor to assess the appropriateness of the student's participation.

## Physical Examinations

Participants in the following extracurricular activities are required to undergo an approved pre-participation physical examination:

- All interscholastic athletic activities including
- ~~● Cheerleading, and dance teams~~
- ~~● Drill Team/Pom/Dance~~
- Other activities, as determined by school officials

Prior to participation (including tryouts) in all grades, all students must submit ~~a complete health and inquiry questionnaire~~ and the results of a pre-participation physical examination to the appropriate coach/sponsor. Results must be submitted on a standard form, provided by the school district; this form will be one recognized or recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. No other form will be accepted. Students/parents should obtain this form from the school and take it to the medical doctor (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) when the physical examination is conducted. For the Rogers Public Schools, medical professionals allowed to perform physicals in addition to MD's and DO's are as follows: ANP (Associated Nurse Practitioner), NP (Nurse Practitioner), and PA-C (Physician Assistant Certified).

Parents will be responsible for the cost of this examination.

Negative findings with the heart medical exam and heart family history shall require clearance from the athlete's primary care physician with a recommendation of an ECG. This is a one-time requirement if no symptoms occur during the remainder of their athletic career.

The pre-participation physical examinations and the annual health reviews should not be used as a substitute for routine health checkups performed by the student's primary physician.

Procedural issues and eligibility questions related to this section of these requirements will be referred to the Medical Advisory Committee appointed by the Rogers School Board.

### **Drug Testing**

*Since June 18, 1996, when the Board of Education adopted a drug testing requirement for all students who have to undergo physicals to compete in school activities, it has been the philosophy of the Rogers School District that all students who represent the district in extracurricular activities should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop a chemical-free lifestyle. In keeping with this philosophy, the district requires students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in extracurricular activities that require physicals (those where interscholastic competition and/or public performances are part of the program) and the parent(s) of such students to agree that the student may be tested, at school district expense, for controlled substances.*

*The drug testing program is intended to*

- 1. Assist students who desire to resist peer pressure to use drugs.*
- 2. Establish a high standard of conduct for students who represent the school and community.*
- 3. Provide a sense of order and discipline for Rogers students.*
- 4. Provide a positive response to students who have requested such a program.*
- 5. Support laws relative to the use of illegal or controlled substances.*

*The following procedure will be in effect:*

- 1. The student and at least one parent/guardian must sign a consent form, which will allow the school to conduct testing.*
- 2. Students will be subject to urinalysis testing at any time during the school year. Students may be selected randomly (from all students participating in extracurricular activities) or specifically, if school officials have reason to believe that a student may be using illegal substances.*
- 3. Testing will be coordinated by district athletic trainers.*
- 4. Positive results will be reported confidentially to parents.*
- 5. A positive test will be repeated immediately.*

*A positive test will result in the student's suspension from extracurricular activities for the period of time outlined in the prior section.*

